

University of Bahrain  
College of Information Technology  
Department of Computer Science  
Second Semester, 2013-2014  
ITCS412 (Cryptography and Network Security)

**Test I**

Duration: One Hour

Time: 3:00PM - 4:00PM

STUDENT NAME	
STUDENT ID #	
SECTION #	9:00 → ① 12:00 → 2

**NOTE: THERE ARE SIX (6) PAGES IN THIS TEST**  
**ONLY ONE SOLUTION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR EACH QUESTION**

Part #	MARKS	COMMENTS
1	10	
2	16	
3	14	
TOTAL	40	

## Part 1:

Answer the following questions by clearly circling *the most appropriate* answer ( 1 point each)

1. Eavesdropping is what type of attack?
  - ☒ a. Active
  - ☐ b. Passive
  - c. Aggressive
  - d. Masquerading
2. What is the inverse of confidentiality, integrity, and availability (C.I.A.) in risk management?
  - a. misuse, exposure, destruction
  - b. authorization, non-repudiation, integrity
  - ☐ c. disclosure, alteration, destruction
  - ☒ d. confidentiality, integrity, availability
3. What type of cryptographic attack enables an attacker to discover the cryptographic key by selecting a series of plaintext and corresponding ciphertext?
  - a. Purchase-key attack
  - ☒ b. Chosen plaintext attack
  - c. Known plaintext attack
  - d. Chosen-key attack
4. 3DES (Tripple Data Encryption Standard) is based on which of the following?
  - a. Hashing algorithm
  - ☒ b. Symmetric key-based algorithm
  - c. Asymmetric key-based algorithm
  - d. None of these
5. What characteristic of Digital Encryption Standard (DES) used in Electronic Code Book (ECB) mode makes it unsuitable for long messages?
  - a. Block fragmentation causes message cipher instability.
  - b. Weak keys will produce symmetrical message holes.
  - ☒ c. Each message block produces a single cipher text block.
  - ☐ d. Repeated message blocks produce repeated cipher text blocks.

6. What is the main component in DES that is responsible for diffusion
- The S-box
  - ☒ The subkeys
  - ☐ The swap operation
  - The initial permutation (IP)
7. DES creates 16 subkeys from a key. Which of the following can be considered a weak key:
- Weak keys: keys with more ones than zeros
  - Weak keys: keys with more zeros than ones.
  - Weak keys: keys that make all subkeys to be different.
  - ☒ Weak keys: keys make the same subkey to be generated in more than one round.
8. If by  $E_K()$  we denote the encryption function of a block cipher with a key K, and if the mode of operation is  $C_i = E_K(P_i \text{ XOR } C_{i-1})$  then the mode of operation is:
- ECB ( Electronic Code book)
  - ☒ CBC ( Cipher Block Chaining )
  - CFB ( Cipher FeedBack )
  - OFB ( Output FeedBack )
  - CTR ( Counter )
9. In AES, the first and the last round begin with the following reversible part:
- MixColumns
  - ☒ AddRoundKey
  - ShiftRows
  - Substitute bytes
  - KeyExpand
10. In DES, if a small number of encodings give back the plaintext, what is likely the cause?  
( DES have 16 rounds with 16 subkeys, subscript indicate round subkey )
- $k_1=k_3, k_2=k_4, k_5=k_7, k_6=k_8, \dots$
  - $k_2=k_1+1, k_3=k_2+1, k_4=k_3+1, \dots$
  - ☒  $k_1..k_8, k_9=k_8, k_{10}=k_7, k_{11}=k_6, \dots k_{16}=k_1$
  - ☒  $k_1=\text{all bits are 1's}, k_8=\text{all bits are 1's}, k_{16}=\text{all bits are 1's},$   
remaining subkeys are all zeros.

## Part 2:

1. Define each of the following attacks: [ 4 points ]

i. What is the “**traffic analysis**”?

ii. What is a “**masquerade**”?

iii. What is a “**replay**”?

iv. What is a “**denial of service**”?

2. Explain what is “One-time pad” [ 2 points ]

3. Construct a table for the Playfair Cipher with the keyword EFFECTIVENESS? [ 3 points ]

Then encrypt the phrase: “EXAMFO”

4. Assume the following **monoalphabetic** cipher where it uses a keyword from which the cipher sequence can be generated. For example, using the keyword, *MARVEL*, write out the keyword followed by unused letters in normal order and match this against the plaintext letters:

Plain : a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Cipher : M A R V E L b c d f g h i j K n o p q s t u w x y z

Now, given the following keyword: ***Partime***, generate the sequence of cipher letters using the above key word and use it to encrypt the word usb. [ 3 points ]

5. Substitution ciphers. [ 2 points ]
- a. Monoalphabetic substitution cipher is not secure. Why?
  - b. Playfair requires a double letter frequency table to break the algorithm. If a new algorithm uses triple letter substitution, what would be the frequency table size required to break the algorithm? (for 26 English letters)
6. In the ciphertext obtained using Vigenere cipher, a four character sequence "GMBH" appears at positions 24, 57, and 101. Based on this information, the most period of Vigenere cipher is? ( Hint: 3 or 4 or 11 or 13 or 17 ) [ 2 points ]

### Part 3:

7. What is the Double version of the 56-bit DES, and why is it much less secure than the expected 112-bit DES? (Not enough to give just the name of it.) [ 3 points ]

8. About how many more times does a brute force key search take against a 106-bit key than against a 56-bit key? [ 2 points ]

9. Assume we are using **EDE** with the 3 keys: K1 and K2, K3. [ 2 points ]  
Evaluate the cryptographic strength of following schemes by writing either *weak* or *strong*.

i. Using 1 key:

$$m \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow D_{k1} \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow c$$

ii. Using 2 keys:

$$m \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow D_{k2} \rightarrow E_{k2} \rightarrow c$$

iii. Using 2 keys:

$$m \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow D_{k2} \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow c$$

iv. Using 3 keys:

$$m \rightarrow E_{k1} \rightarrow D_{k2} \rightarrow E_{k3} \rightarrow c$$

10. AES and DES design issues [ 2 points ]  
For each of the following elements of DES, indicate the comparable element in AES.

i. XOR of subkey material with the input to the f function.

ii. XOR of the  $f$  function output with the left half of the block.

iii. The  $f$  function

iv. Permutation  $p$

11. Ben has invented a Feistel cipher that is similar to DES but has only 3 rounds with the same subkey used in each round and an  $F$  function which performs the following:

$$F(m, k) = k \text{ xor } m$$

Convince Ben that the resulting cipher is not secure. [ 5 points ]